Disney's

THE LION KING

A NATURE FUN AND LEARN SERIES

12



FREE Simba Transfer

£1.40

South Africa R7.95,
Malta £M1.15

Grapevine

Hi there!

Why does Simba's World give animals such weird names? Such as Acinonyx jubatus (cheetah to you and me). And Connochaetes taurinus (here's a clue – they stampede down gorges).

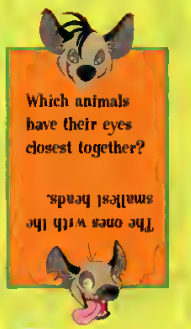
Well, these fancy titles are the scientific names. They're in Latin which no-one speaks any more. The idea is that when you use the Latin names everyone all over the world knows what animals you mean – whatever language you speak!

Kim



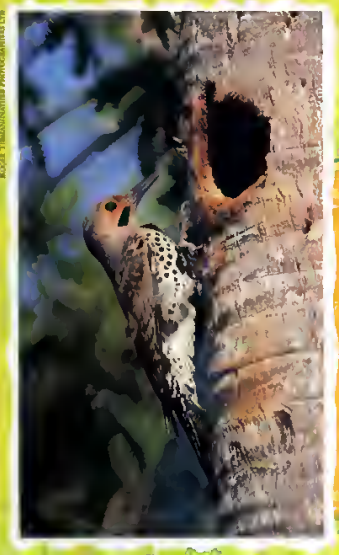
Jawhara Cooksley, age 6

Using your free transfer
Remove top sheet and press transfer on skin. Damp backing sheet with a moist cloth for 30 seconds. Check it has stuck. Peel off backing. Take off with cleansing cream.





Shaun Sullivan, age 10

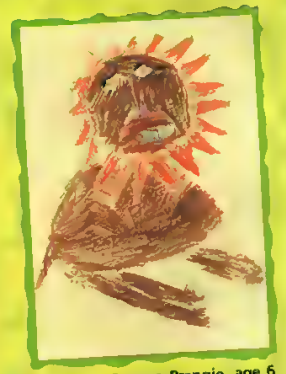


Kunal Trivedi/Kuttab Photo Library

SHUTTLE SHUTDOWN

PRESS CARD
Overseas news
Siberian bird

Woodpeckers have been banned from a space station – for trying to nest in a space shuttle. The birds had spotted an unusual pad – the foam skin on space shuttle Discovery's fuel tank. They punched over 70 holes, some as big as saucers. When space shuttle workers discovered the damage, they blew horns and used mock owl figures to frighten the nesters away. Repairs to the shuttle delayed the next launch by weeks!



Gemma Prangie, age 6



Jean Dorrell/Robert Estall Picture

SEA RIDER

PRESS CARD
Gardening Expert
Zebra

Careful planning makes for a successful trip, as this coconut palm seed proves. It's putting down roots on a sandy tropical beach after a long sea voyage. Its far-off parent tree sent it packing with everything it needed for the journey. Inside its hard shell was a supply of food – that's the white chewy coconut lining – and water, which we call coconut milk. A fibre coating kept the seed afloat on the sea like a boat. Now that the seed has finally landed, it will produce roots and leaves.



STING STEP

PRESS CARD
Music & Dance
Ostrich

Two scorpions spotted dancing in the desert were performing the sting step. The male takes his chosen partner gently in his pincers. Then he slowly leads her backwards and forwards. Both hold their stings well out of harm's way.
"It's a courting dance," sighed Ostrich. "So romantic!"

WATCH OUT FOR

There are 22 baboons bouncing through this magazine. Can you find them all?

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Rafiki's tricks — PUZZLES

Rafiki names the cub — THE LION KING COLOUR IT IN

RAFIKI REMEMBERS
Anansi learns to weave

FREE IN PART 13
Great lion cub poster for your wall



Editor: Joan
Art editor: James C
Production controller:
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SIMBA'S WORLD

WITH THEIR STURDY SHOULDERS, LONG FACES AND CURVED HORNS, WILDEBEEST LOOK MORE LIKE BUFFALOS THAN ANTELOPES. SOME HERDS HAVE TO MAKE LONG TREKS ACROSS THE DRY PLAINS IN SEARCH OF FRESH GRASS.

Wildebeest

There are vast numbers of blue wildebeest, which are sometimes called black-tailed gnu, on the grasslands of eastern and southern Africa. About the same size as a cow, the blue wildebeest is actually various shades of grey with dark stripes along the neck and forequarters. The exact colour varies according to where it lives. It has a long, bristly face with a beard that runs down the neck, and a straggly mane. Both males and females have horns which grow out and then curve upwards. Its body slopes down at the back to its long black tail, like a horse's, and its front legs are longer than the back ones.

In southern Africa, there is a small number of black wildebeest. They are dark brown with a whitish tail tassel. During the 19th century so many were killed for their skins that there were only 600 left by the beginning of this century. Herds were protected on some farms and they now roam free on special reserves.

➤ **DUSTY MARCH**
Over a million blue wildebeest make the long trek from Tanzania and back every year, leaving behind a trail of dust as they cross the dry land. When they meet a river, they hurl themselves into the water and swim across.

THE LONG TREK

The blue wildebeest in the Serengeti plain are hardy travellers. Every year, by about May, the south-east corner of the grasslands is dry and dusty and there is very little food left. Huge herds of wildebeest, accompanied by zebras and Thomson's gazelles, start to move west and then north in search of fresh grass.

It is a dangerous journey. There are lions, hyenas and wild dogs hungry for prey. There are rivers to cross where the wildebeest risk being eaten by crocodiles, carried away by the current or drowned under the crush of animals all trying to get across. They may also have to walk for days without food or water. But they keep going, and after a 200km trek, they arrive at their new feeding grounds north of the River Mara.

FACT FILE

BLUE WILDEBEEST
Connochaetes taurinus

SIZE: The male is about 240cm long, with a tail of about half a metre. It weighs up to 270kg. The female is up to 230cm long, with a tail of about half a metre. She weighs up to 180kg.

RANGE: They live in open grassland and light woodland in east and central southern Africa.

DIET: They eat grasses up to 10cm long.

YOUNG: One young, usually born during the rainy season.

LIFESPAN: Up to 18 years.

STAYING PUT

In areas like the Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania, where there is enough lush grass and water all the year round, blue wildebeest stay put. Females, with their young, live in herds. When the young males are about 12 months old they leave the herds and roam about in bachelor groups until they are old enough to set up a territory of their own. Then each male stakes out and protects his patch which usually has a bare, stamping ground in the middle of it. The male marks this patch with dung and urine. He rolls on the bare soil, digs into it with his horns and rubs his face in it – these are all ways of staking his claim to it. When a female comes into his territory he tries to make her stay, and mates with her if she is on heat.



FIGHTING FOR SPACE
Some male wildebeest spend part of the day defending their territories. If a rival male comes too close, the territory holder will stab the ground with his horns, stamp his hooves and swish his tail. If that doesn't work, the two males will drop to their knees and head butt each other, sometimes locking their horns, until one of them gives up.



HAIRY FACE
The black wildebeest's horns grow forwards and down before curving up. Its face is covered in tufts of stiff hair.



SPECIAL FEATURES
Blue wildebeest are well suited for life on the plains. They have eyes on the side of the head to help them spot predators and horizontal pupils which allow them to see out of the corners of their eyes. Their long legs, with tough, shock absorbing hooves, help them to run fast on uneven ground.

THE INSIDE STORY

In Kenya's Masai Mara Reserve, there seems to be enough food all the year round for the wildebeest to survive. So why do they migrate to the Serengeti? The grass that sprouts after the rains in the Serengeti plains is lusher and more nutritious than the coarse grasses in the Masai Mara. Scientists have discovered that the Serengeti grasses are rich in phosphorous, a mineral which is very important for the development of bones in calves. When the mothers eat this grass, they pass on the mineral to the calves via their milk.



SIMBA SAYS

We lion cubs spend the first few weeks of our lives lying around, being fed by our mothers. But those amazing wildebeest babies have tons of energy. Most of them are running around only 7 minutes after being born.

GRAZING ALL DAY

Like other grazers, wildebeest have to spend most of the day feeding in order to get enough nourishment from the grasses they eat. Their spade-shaped muzzle allows them to crop grasses up to about 10cm tall. They particularly like the new growth that sprouts after a fire. Their ridged teeth help to break it down, and then it is digested in their four stomachs.

Wildebeest usually drink twice a day, but they can go without water for three days or more. If it is very hot, they rest during the middle of the day. They pant to keep cool.



BABY BOOM
In the Serengeti, up to 400,000 calves are born in the space of three weeks. At first their coats are brownish yellow and they have dark faces and manes.

UP AND RUNNING
A mother encourages her calf to strengthen its long legs from the day it is born because running away is its best defence. Wildebeest live on the open plains, so the young calves are at great risk of being caught by lions, cheetahs and hyenas.



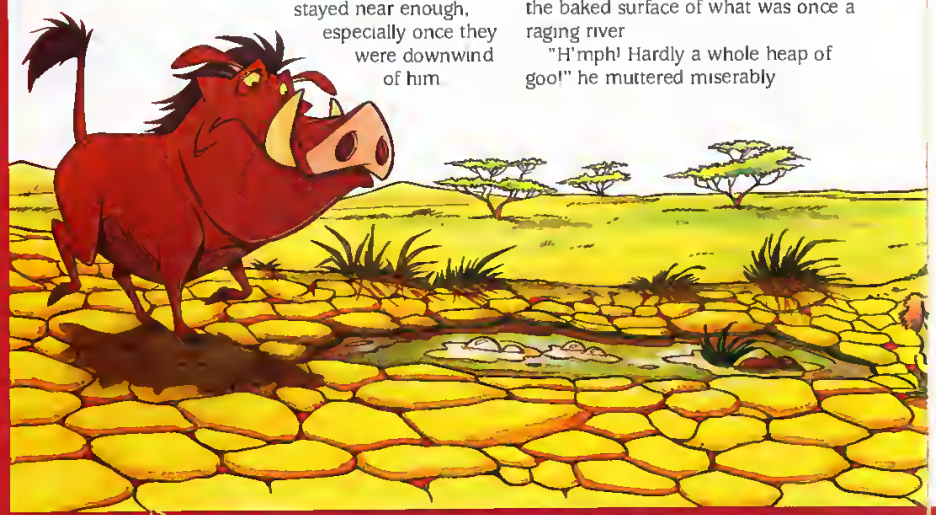
HAKUNA MATATA
NO WORRIES!

All mud and motor mouth
Part 1

"What I don't understand is how you two got together in the first place," said Simba one day. "I mean... a warthog and a meerkat?" Well, it happened like this.

As Pumbaa the young warthog dug powerfully with his curved tusks in the dry, dusty river bed, he sang hopefully to himself. He would have happily serenaded any neighbours. But, wherever he went, there never were any. Well, not for long!

It wasn't that Pumbaa didn't try to be perfectly polite. He never had the chance. No-one ever stayed near enough, especially once they were downwind of him.



Pumbaa's fondness for foul-smelling mud had left him with a personal problem – and not a single pal in the african wilderness!

Now there was a bigger worry – one which troubled all the animals and had already claimed many of the weaker ones. Drought! Rivers and waterholes had dried up to leave, at best, a little damp mud. Those animals strong and patient enough to dig down into it were rewarded with a few drops of dirty water. But that would hardly quench the thirst of so many. Vital grasslands had shrivelled, too, causing wildebeest, zebra, gazelle and other grazers to leave in search of food. Some would never return.

Pumbaa dropped his bulky body on to a meagre patch of mud. It lay on the baked surface of what was once a raging river.

"H'mph! Hardly a whole heap of goo!" he muttered miserably.

The warthog was hungry as well as thirsty. He also longed for mountains of thick, sticky mud. Ever since Pumbaa was a little piglet, he had been mega-mud mad! The warthog closed his eyes and dreamt about the time he was a young hog with his Ma, Pa, brother and sister...

"Pumbaa!" his mother's voice rang in his ears. "Just look at you!"

"Are you a warthog or what?" laughed his brother as Pumbaa returned from yet another mud-hollow wallow.

"He's a mud monster!" squealed his sister.

"If you wander away again, I'll..." began Pumbaa's despairing Pa.

It was always the same. Much as Pumbaa loved his family, he like mud even more! Time after time, his mud-lust lured him away from them. Finally, it led to a permanent parting.

Warthogs, of course, are hardly handsome. After all, they have lumpy warts on their face which give them their name. But Pumbaa's family found that wherever he went with them, friends would turn up their noses and beat a retreat!

"Pumbaa, you're the pongiest pig in Africa!" his brother teased.

"You're making us unpopular, too," agreed his sister.

"It's your family or mud, son. Make up your mind!" Pa had said when Pumbaa was old enough to take care of himself.

"Okay! You win!" Pumbaa replied.

His family breathed a sigh of relief.

"No more mud?" asked his brother.

"No way!" replied Pumbaa, cheerfully trotting away. "I'm off to muddy pastures new."

Before long, Ma sent Pa to bring Pumbaa back. Too late! Pumbaa had spotted a sight beyond his wildest dreams. A mighty mud slide. He launched himself from its towering top. But the slide was even longer and more slippery than he had realised. Down, down Pumbaa slid and slithered. He rolled over and over, until thick mud caked him from tusks to tail. At last, the warthog splashed to a halt. SPLAT!

For a while, he lay exhausted. When he finally rose, he realised he was lost.

"Guess it's just me and mud from now on!" he grinned.

Which is how Pumbaa started to be a solitary soul.





Meanwhile, not far from where Pumbaa was dozing in the dried-up river bed, a meerkat wandered all alone. He was talking to himself at high speed.

"Give a guy a break! Ha! The cheek! It wasn't my fault! I tried to tell them! What else could I do?" he rattled on.

The meerkat was more than a little put out by what had happened just a short while ago. It had all begun when he was on guard duty above his group's underground home.

"Remember, Timon!" an elder had said. "If you see anything, yell!"

"Sure! You can always rely on me to say something!" came Timon's rapid reply.

That was the trouble. Timon never stopped talking. Almost from the moment he was born, the motor-mouthed meerkat had been driving the others from their burrow. The only peace and quiet for them was to go and forage for food. And sentry duty was the one way to stop Timon from joining them.

However, he had hardly begun before his cry brought everyone running back to the burrow.

"I saw something! The sun sinking over that hill!" laughed Timon.

"Very funny!" fumed the others. "Only warn us if you see anything coming this way!" explained the elder.

"OK! I've got it!" said Timon cheerfully while the others set off again in search of insects, beetles, spiders and anything else tasty enough to eat.

But another warning brought them all back for a second time. "I saw a butterfly flutter by!" Timon chuckled, pointing to it.

By now, the other meerkats wondered if Timon's sentry duty had been such a smart idea, after all. But they drifted away to escape his non-stop babbling.

"Go right ahead! I'll holler if anything's wrong!" called Timon.

Before long, he saw a dark shape in the sky. The keen-eyed eagle had already spotted the meerkat. It flew closer, its hooked bill and razor-sharp talons ready to strike. Timon felt pure panic. For the first time in his life, he was lost for words. At last, he yelled out a warning to the others.

"Look out! Up there! It's coming!"

"What is? The sun or another butterfly?" said the other meerkats. "Ignore him! Timon won't trick us any more!"

So vital moments were lost while the sinister shadow soared overhead. The airborne hunter swooped, narrowly missing a meerkat as they all raced for cover. It was pure luck the whole group reached the burrow safely. But Timon took the blame for making it such a close call.

"You shouldn't have fooled around in the first place," one told him.

"Yeah! We were nearly bird bait!" added another.

Then every meerkat was yelling so much that Timon, for once, couldn't be heard. His protests shouted down, he turned tail and marched off. The scorching sun did little to cool his temper. But as Timon walked on, he saw clouds sweeping across the sky. The wind had changed and the meerkat could smell rain.

Soon big, welcome drops sprinkled the ground in a shower that turned into a deafening deluge.

As Timon reached the river bed he saw something stir. Pumbaa the warthog wriggled and writhed to make a much welcomed mud bath.

Suddenly, the meerkat slipped and went sliding down a wet slope towards Pumbaa.

"Eaaaah!" he yelled.

"What do you know!" the warthog squealed in surprise. "I've got me a mud-loving meerkat for company!"

NEXT WEEK: AN UNLIKELY PAIR





Leavened lizard loaves

If you've never tasted home-made bread fresh from the oven, then you're in for a special treat. Try this simple recipe and learn some science at the same time.

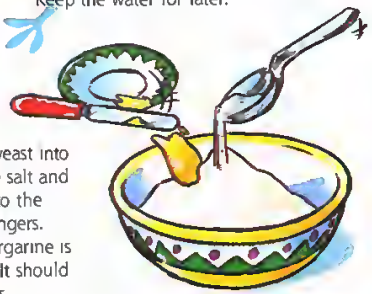


YOU WILL NEED

- scales
- measuring jug
- 1 sachet fast-acting dried yeast (The 6g sachet used here is the same as 25g of fresh yeast or 15g of ordinary dried yeast.)
- 750g strong white flour
- ½ tablespoon salt
- 15g margarine
- 500ml warm water
- 1 beaten egg
- 2 greased baking trays
- 8 cloves
- pastry brush
- greaseproof paper
- large bowl



1. Ask an adult to turn the oven to 230°C/ 450°F/gas mark 8. Collect all the ingredients. Fill a washing-up bowl with warm water and wash your hands. Keep the water for later.



2. Put the flour and yeast into a large bowl, add the salt and rub the margarine into the flour between your fingers. Make sure all the margarine is mixed into the flour. It should look like breadcrumbs.

3. Sprinkle some flour on to the work surface (You'll see why in a minute.) Make a well in the middle of the mix and pour in the water.

4. Now mix the flour and water together by hand. Do this until it starts to form a wet dough. Lift out the dough and put it on to the floured work surface. The flour should stop it sticking.



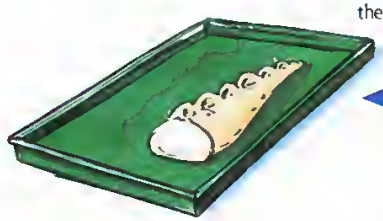
5. Knead the dough. To do this properly think of someone you don't like – a teacher, someone on TV, your dentist. Then give that dough a really good whacking – for about 8 minutes!



6. By now you should have a very sticky mass of dough. Wash and dry your hands before the next part. (If you didn't keep the water in the bowl as you were told, you'll have to wash the taps too.)

7. Rub your hands in flour and sprinkle some on top of the dough. (This stops it sticking to your hands.) Divide the dough into 4. Take one piece and tear 5 small pieces off it. Roll them into balls for the legs and head.





8. Now shape the rest into a sausage for the lizard body. Put the sausage on one half of a baking tray. Mould the sausage, making it fat at one end, tapering to a tail at the other. Then pinch up a ridge of dough all along the body and tail.

9. Take one of the balls and stick it on to the fat end of the body. Squeeze both parts together for a good join and then shape a head. Stick on the 4 remaining balls of dough and shape them into legs. (Remember, your lizards will double in size. Don't make them too big – give them plenty of room.)



Zazu says...

A sure way to disgust your friends and family and put them off the idea of eating your lizards, is to tell them how clean your hands were after making bread dough!

- Scrub your hands and nails before you start.
- Make sure the surface you are working on is spotlessly clean.
- Wear an apron or some clothes that won't spoil if you get flour and dough all over them.







10 Make three more lizards. Then cover both trays with a piece of greased, greaseproof paper. Leave them in a warm, draught-free place until the dough has doubled in size.

11 Push in cloves for the eyes and lightly brush the backs with beaten egg. (This gives the lizards a shine when they're cooked.) Ask an adult to put them into the oven for about 20 minutes or until they're golden brown. Clear up the mess while you're waiting.

12 Let the lizards cool slightly, then split them open and serve with your favourite filling – or just butter.

HOW IT WORKS

Heavy dough, light bread

How does sticky dough become spongy bread? To answer this you need to know two things. First, yeast is actually living fungus cells which work on sugar to make a gas called carbon dioxide. Secondly, wheat flour contains a substance called gluten which combines with water to form an elastic web.

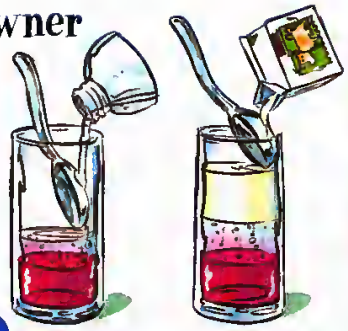
When you knead the ingredients together, carbon dioxide becomes trapped in the web and the dough rises. Gases expand when heated, so when you put your bread in the oven, the carbon dioxide expands – making even larger holes. These become permanent as the bread cooks. Bread that has been 'lightened' in this way is called leavened.

Serengeti sundowner

Use a steady hand to create a drink with coloured layers. You can create your own layered drinks with other cordials. The secret is to put the heavy syrups at the bottom.

YOU WILL NEED

- blackcurrant cordial
- lemonade
- milk
- ice-cream
- glace cherries





1 Pour a little blackcurrant cordial into a glass. Very slowly pour some lemonade over the back of a spoon – so the lemonade runs down the sides of the glass.

2 Do the same with the milk.

3 Carefully float a scoop of ice-cream on top of your drink and decorate with a couple of cherries.

PUMBAA AND TIMON BUG PATROL

FEMALE MIMICS

It pays some female mocker swallowtail butterflies to look completely different in colour and shape to their mates. Why?

A orangey brown butterfly, with whitish splodges across both wings, flutters slowly through a forest clearing in Africa. A hungry bird spots it but lets it fly by — it has tasted one of these brown and white butterflies before and was promptly sick. Now the bird always avoids them.

Close by, a second butterfly with the same type of markings, slowly crosses the clearing. The bird ignores it, too, and so the butterfly flies on to a leafy plant to lay its eggs.

The first butterfly is an african monarch which tastes and smells horrible to butterfly-eaters like lizards and birds. The second is a female mocker swallowtail, a butterfly that the bird would have found quite tasty.

The female mocker swallowtail looks quite different to the showy male who is black and white or yellow and has a long 'tail' on each hind wing. By looking and behaving like the foul-tasting african monarch, the female fools the birds and reptiles into leaving her alone. This means that she has a better chance of successfully laying her eggs.



LOOK-ALIKE
This female mocker swallowtail looks so much like the foul-tasting african monarch (top right) that she fools passing birds.

FAST AND FREE

The male mocker swallowtail is not a mimic but he has two advantages when it comes to predators: he can fly faster than the female, and he does not have to lay eggs.



WALT DISNEY

ILLUSTRATIONS BY BRIDGETTE JAMES ©AA

NORTH EAST AFRICA

PUMBAA & TIMON'S TRAVELS

THIS PART OF AFRICA STRETCHES FROM LAKE CHAD TO THE RED SEA. IT INCLUDES THE WORLD'S LONGEST RIVER, AND THE HORN OF AFRICA, WHICH STICKS INTO THE INDIAN OCEAN.

Most of north-east Africa is low and flat, with tall highlands and mountains south of the Red Sea. The west side is filled with the hot dry desert where it hardly ever rains. In the Great Sand Sea winds have blown the sand into long steep dunes called seifs – some are over 100km from end to end.

But it's the opposite in the strange Qatara Depression where winds have scooped out soft rock to make a deep hollow. At the bottom it is 134m below sea level. It floods when there's rain, but usually it's bone dry.

The Sinai desert sticks out like a triangle into the Red Sea. Palm trees fringe the coast and there are low craggy mountains with bare rock surfaces.

There is more rain in the Horn of Africa. Much of this area is semi-desert with dry grasses and tough thorny bushes. When it rains, dry river beds called wadis suddenly fill with water.

But some years the rains fail, and the wadis remain dry. Trees like the huge conocarpus manage to survive by growing incredibly long roots which suck water from deep below the ground.

By permanent rivers such as the Shebeli and Juba, the soils are wetter and more fertile, and thick woodlands edge the banks.

The hills and mountains south of the Red Sea are cooler with more rainfall. Some slopes are covered with trees.

These highlands are part of the Great Rift Valley which runs through east Africa. This huge crack in Earth's surface was made by movements in the crust. They cracked and tore rocks, and made high mountains, lakes and valleys.

"Look! Is that an oasis - or is that a mirage?"

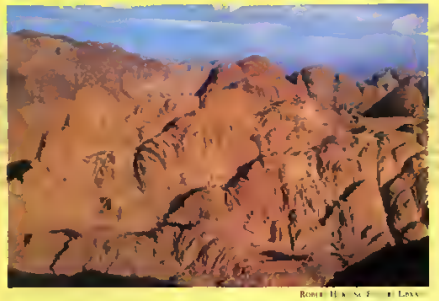
"An oasis, you mook! Who'd check their looks in a mirage in this place?"

Sacred baboons love to groom each other – it helps keep the family together.

Colonies of naked mole rats live in underground tunnels. The biggest work as bouncers to keep out intruders.

The lammergeier drops bones on to rocks to smash them open. Then it feasts on the tasty marrow inside.

➤ ROCKY CRAGS
Massive slabs of rock were pushed up when the Great Rift Valley formed.

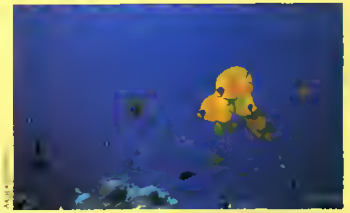


◀ RED MOUNT
In the Sinai desert the low craggy mountains look red in some lights. This is Mount Sinai.



Millions of hungry locusts sometimes swarm over fields in the Horn of Africa, destroying acres of crops.

▼ WATERCOLOUR
Brightly coloured tropical fish swim around the coral reefs in the Red Sea.



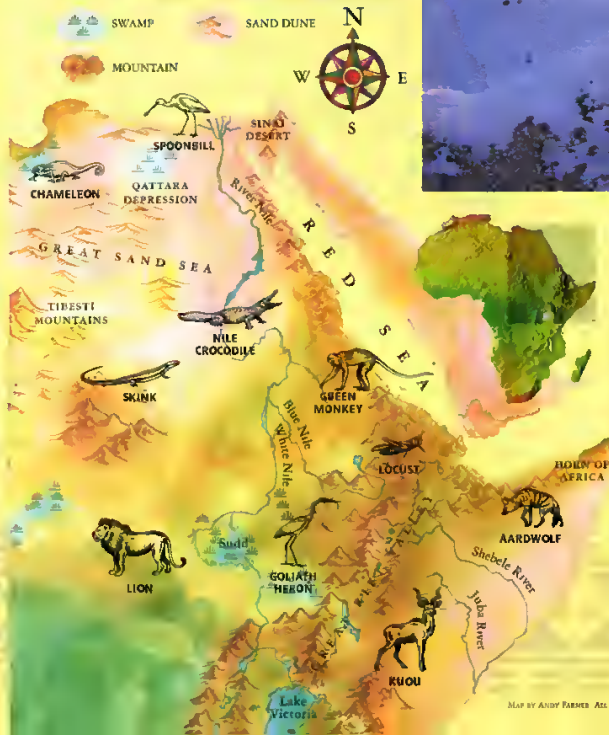


◀ MUSHROOM
The amazing desert mushroom is actually made of rock. The top consists of harder material than the stem. So winds have worn away more of the softer rock, leaving a hard rock cap.

▼ GREEN HILLS
Lush forests cover the hilly ground in the south-west where there is plenty of rain.







The desert rose can survive for months without rain because it stores water in its swollen trunk.

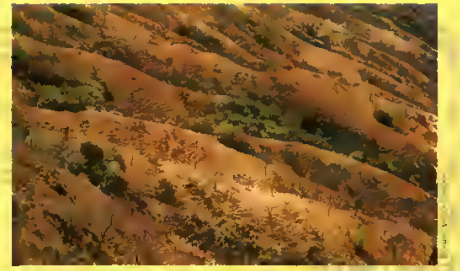
MAP BY ANDY FARMER. ALL ILLUSTRATIONS BY WILDLIFE ART AGENCY



"So, here we are at the source of the Nile. Now it's an easy ride to the deep blue sea."

"Sure - if you like sucking swamps, rushing rapids, giant fish and crocs."



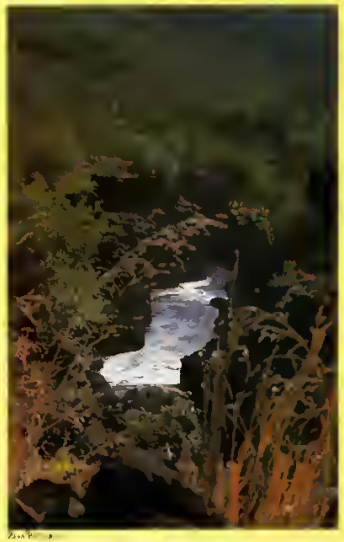


The Nile is the longest river in the world. It flows for nearly 6670km. The place where a river starts is called its source. The Nile has several sources, but it really starts in Lake Victoria, in east Africa. Here it's called the Albert Nile.

Further north, it spreads out into the world's biggest inland swamp. It's called the Sudd. Tall papyrus sedge grows in thick mud, and there are reeds which grow as high as trees. Sometimes clumps of reeds and grasses break off and drift away downstream like floating islands.

After this, more rivers join in to form the White Nile. This is joined by the Blue Nile and the Atbara river. The Nile flows on north, like a green ribbon in the desert. The river valley is very fertile because the Nile floods its banks every year, and leaves behind particles of soil.

At the coast, the Nile splits into smaller channels and spreads out over a fertile plain that sticks out into the Mediterranean sea. This plain is called the Nile Delta.



▲ **RAINWASHED** Rain washes soil off the Ethiopian highlands and into the Nile.

The water hyacinth may look pretty but it's a pest – it spreads so fast it can block up waterways in the Nile.



The Nile perch is Africa's biggest river fish. It can weigh more than a fully-grown man.





▲ **BLUE WATERS** This little stream is part of the Blue Nile which flows into the Nile.

◀ **DELTA VIEW** This satellite picture shows the Nile Delta as a big blue curve.

Crocodiles in the Nile can be real monsters. They can grow as long as an estate car.



THE LION KING

COLOUR IT IN

Rafiki names the cub

Rafiki returned to his home, deep in the forest. He chose a gourd filled with a golden brown liquid. He dipped his thumb into the pot and drew the outline of a lion cub on the smooth bark of a tree. Then he stood back and looked at what he had drawn. "Simba," he whispered to himself as he added a golden line across the cub's forehead.



PUZZLES

RAFIKI'S TRICKS

Rafiki keeps the young baboons amused with some of his magic tricks. Can you work them out?

Rafiki has a ring on this loop of vine. Can you find a way of getting the ring off the vine without taking it off his thumbs?

MUSCLE POWER

One baboon is trying to pull the other's hands apart. Can she do it? Try it with a friend and see!

HIDDEN BUTTERFLIES

Three buttterflies are hiding in the picture. Can you find them?

TIE A KNOT

Can you tie a knot in a piece of string while holding both ends, one in each hand?

MISSING VOWELS

Can you fill them in?

-S-NT-

S-N-

SQ--SH

B-N-N-

THINK OF A NUMBER

The baby baboons need all ten fingers and ten toes to do this number puzzle. You can use a calcutator!

Take your age,
Double it,
Add 5,
Multiply by 50
Add the number of bananas in this picture
Take away the number of days in the year
Add 115
Divide by 100.

Your age is on the left of the decimal point, the number of bananas is on the right.

More Puzzles

Here are some more tricks to try on your friends.

ODD ONE OUT

Can you work out which baboon is the odd one out?





GLASS MOVES

Stand 3 glasses on a table like this:



Can you make three moves, changing the position of two of the glasses each time, so that you end up with all three glasses upside down?



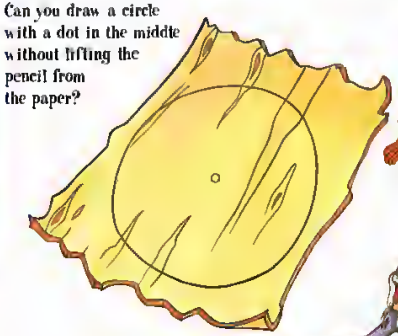
Banzai: "When is it bad luck to have a black cat cross your path?"
Ed: "Er?"
Banzai: "When you're a mouse!"





DOT IN THE CIRCLE

Can you draw a circle with a dot in the middle without lifting the pencil from the paper?

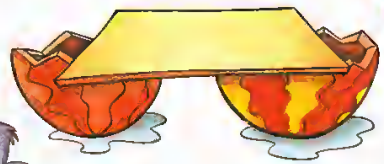






BALANCED GLASS

You need three glasses and a sheet of paper. Arrange them like this:



Ask your friends if they can balance a glass on the paper bridge.







Rafiki Remembers

How Anansi Learnt to Weave

"You've seen the spiders making their webs and catching little insects in them, haven't you? But, lion cubs, I wonder if you have ever thought about how the spiders learnt their skills. I can tell you."

One day Anansi the spider went into the forest to hunt. He ventured deeper and deeper until, tired, he sat down at the foot of a tree and fell asleep.

He awoke to find a beautiful piece of cloth lying next to him. It was of the finest silk in mellow browns and yellows. Anansi couldn't believe his luck. He took the cloth home and sold it for a good amount of money.

The next day he went back to the same place to see if he could spot the weaver of the cloth. He waited a long time, but he saw nothing unusual. Finally he fell asleep.

Once again, when he awoke he found a piece of cloth by him – but it was even more beautiful than the previous one, in different shades of blue.

Days came and went and Anansi sat under his tree hoping to catch a glimpse of the wonderful weaver. Then, one day, he heard the sound of someone singing. He walked in the direction it was coming from until, all at once, there, before him, was an extraordinary sight.

Between two trees hung a loom and swinging from side to side above it was a little man. As he swung, he sang and wove the silken threads all at the same time.

Anansi watched and watched, then went back to his tree and slept. When he awoke, the silk cloth was there beside him.



But the more Anansi thought about what he had seen, the more he wanted to weave the cloth himself. And so he hatched a plan.

The next day he watched and waited and listened hard to what the weaver was singing. Eventually, the little man stopped the loom with a magic word, climbed down from the tree and disappeared.

"Now's my chance," Anansi said to himself and climbed up to the loom. There he began to sing the song the little man had sung and, as he did so, the loom began to work. At first, Anansi found it strange to weave but he soon got into the swing of it. The more he wove, the more fun he had, swinging on the silken threads and singing his special song. Then he began to bounce on the loom, to jump on it and hang upside down from it like a monkey. Ooh! he was enjoying himself.

His antics grew wilder and wilder. He swung in great arcs that became larger and larger, but he couldn't stop the loom because he didn't know the magic word. His swinging took him far over the water to strange lands unheard of in Africa. And there his children weave their silken threads to this day.





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PUZZLE ANSWERS

RING TRICK









DOT IN THE CIRCLE



MUSCLE POWER You can't pull their hands apart!

TIE A KNOT Cross your arms, hold the ends of the string, then uncross your arms. The knot is tied!

MISSING VOWELS A,A E A,A U A A,A,A

ODD ONE OUT Baboon ID is the only one with his left leg forward.

GLASS MOVES Turn over glasses 2 and 3, then 1 and 3, then 2 and 3.

BALANCED GLASS Fold the paper backwards and forwards into a zig zag concertina. Then it will be strong enough to carry a glass.